

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Javan Moore,	) C/A No. 4:13-2454-RMG-TER
	)
Plaintiff,	)
	)
v.	)
	)
William Byars, and	)
Monica Parks,	)
	)
Defendants.	)
	)

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This is a civil action filed by a state prisoner. Therefore, in the event that a limitations issue arises, Plaintiff shall have the benefit of the holding in *Houston v. Lack*, 487 U.S. 266 (1988) (prisoner's pleading was filed at the moment of delivery to prison authorities for forwarding to District Court). Under Local Civil Rule 73.02(B)(2) of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, pretrial proceedings in this action have been referred to the assigned United States Magistrate Judge.

By Order dated September 30, 2013, Plaintiff was given a specific time frame in which to bring this case into proper form. ECF No. 9. Plaintiff has complied with the Court's Order, and this case is now in proper form.

**MOTION TO APPOINT COUNSEL:**

Plaintiff ask the Court to appoint legal counsel to represent him in this case without charge. ECF No. 13. There is no right to appointed counsel in § 1983 cases. *Cf. Hardwick v. Ault*, 517 F.2d 295, 298 (5th Cir. 1975). While the court is granted the power to exercise its discretion to appoint counsel for an indigent in a civil action, 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1); *Smith v. Blackledge*, 451 F.2d 1201 (4th Cir. 1971), such appointment "should be allowed only in exceptional cases." *Cook v. Bounds*, 518 F.2d 779, 780 (4th Cir. 1975). Plaintiff in his motion has not shown that any exceptional circumstances exist in this case. Rather, he simply states that he is illiterate and is not a lawyer.

These are typical assertions from prisoners seeking to pursue civil cases *pro se* in federal court, and, after a review of the file, this Court has determined that there are no exceptional or unusual circumstances presented which would justify the appointment of counsel, nor would Plaintiff be denied due process if an attorney is not appointed. *Whisenant v. Yuam*, 739 F.2d 160 (4th Cir. 1984). Accordingly, Plaintiff's request for a discretionary appointment of counsel under 28 U.S.C. §1915 (e)(1) is denied.

**PAYMENT OF THE FILING FEE:**

By filing this case, Plaintiff has incurred a debt to the United States of America in the amount of \$350.\* *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1914. This debt is not dischargeable in the event Plaintiff seeks relief under the bankruptcy provisions of the United States Code. *See* 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(17). The Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) of 1996 permits a prisoner to file a civil action without prepayment of fees or security, but requires the prisoner “to pay the full amount of the filing fee” as funds are available. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a), (b). As the Court has granted Plaintiff permission to proceed *in forma pauperis*, the agency having custody of Plaintiff shall collect payments from Plaintiff’s prisoner trust account in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1) and (2), until the full \$350 filing fee is paid. *See Torres v. O’Quinn*, 612 F.3d 237, 252 (4th Cir. 2010) (“We hold that 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2) caps the amount of funds that may be withdrawn from an inmate’s trust account at a maximum of twenty percent regardless of the number of cases or appeals the inmate has filed.”) (emphasis in original).

Plaintiff has submitted an Application to Proceed Without Prepayment of Fees and Affidavit (Form AO 240) and a Financial Certificate, which are construed as a Motion for Leave to Proceed *in forma pauperis*. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1), (2). A review of the Motion reveals that Plaintiff does not have the funds to pay the first installment of the filing fee. Therefore, the amount due from Plaintiff is currently \$350.

Plaintiff’s Motion for Leave to Proceed *in forma pauperis* is **granted**.

**TO THE CLERK OF COURT:**

This case is subject to summary dismissal based on an initial screening conducted pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1915 and/or 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. Therefore, the Clerk of Court shall not issue any summonses nor shall the Clerk of Court forward this matter to the United States Marshal for service of process at this time.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Thomas E. Rogers, III

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Thomas E. Rogers, III  
United States Magistrate Judge

November 25, 2013  
Florence, South Carolina

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\* Effective May 1, 2013, an administrative fee of \$50 is added to the filing fee of \$350. The \$50 administrative fee, however, is not applicable to *in forma pauperis* cases.